

- A system with input x and output y is **BIBO stable** if, for every bounded x , y is bounded (i.e., $|x(n)| < \infty$ for all n implies that $|y(n)| < \infty$ for all n .)
- To show that a system is *BIBO stable*, we must show that *every bounded input* leads to a *bounded output*.
- To show that a system is *not BIBO stable*, we need only find a single *bounded input* that leads to an *unbounded output*.
- In practical terms, a BIBO stable system is *well behaved* in the sense that, as long as the system input remains finite for all time, the output will also remain finite for all time.
- Usually, a system that is not BIBO stable will have *serious safety issues*. For example, an iPod with a battery input of 3.7 volts and headset output of ∞ volts would result in one vaporized Apple customer and one big lawsuit.

- A system H is said to be **time invariant (TI)** if, for every sequence x and every integer n_0 , the following condition holds:

$$y(n-n_0) = Hx'(n) \quad \text{where } y = Hx \quad \text{and} \quad x'(n) = x(n-n_0)$$

)i.e., H *commutes with time shifts*.(

- In other words, a system is time invariant if a time shift (i.e., advance or delay) in the input always results only in an *identical time shift* in the output.
- A system that is not time invariant is said to be **time varying**.
- In simple terms, a time invariant system is a system whose behavior *does not change* with respect to time.
- Practically speaking, compared to time-varying systems, time-invariant systems are much *easier to design and analyze*, since their behavior does not change with respect to time.

- A system H is said to be **additive** if, for all sequences x_1 and x_2 , the following condition holds:

$$H(x_1 + x_2) = Hx_1 + Hx_2$$

)i.e., H *commutes with sums*.(

- A system H is said to be **homogeneous** if, for every sequence x and every complex constant a , the following condition holds:

$$H(ax) = aHx$$

)i.e., H *commutes with multiplication by a constant*.(

- A system that is both additive and homogeneous is said to be **linear**.
- In other words, a system H is *linear*, if for all sequences x_1 and x_2 and all complex constants a_1 and a_2 , the following condition holds:

$$H(a_1x_1 + a_2x_2) = a_1Hx_1 + a_2Hx_2$$

)i.e., H *commutes with linear combinations*.(

- The linearity property is also referred to as the **superposition** property.
- Practically speaking, linear systems are much *easier to design and analyze* than nonlinear systems.

Part 8

Discrete-Time Linear Time-Invariant (LTI) Systems

- In engineering, linear-time invariant (LTI) systems play a very important role.
- Very powerful mathematical tools have been developed for analyzing LTI systems.
- LTI systems are much easier to analyze than systems that are not LTI. In practice, systems that are not LTI can be well approximated using LTI models.
- So, even when dealing with systems that are not LTI, LTI systems still play an important role.

Section 8.1

Convolution

- The (DT) **convolution** of the sequences x and h , denoted $x*h$, is defined as the sequence

$$x*h(n) = \left(\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x(k)h(n-k) \right)$$

- The convolution $x*h$ evaluated at the point n is simply a weighted sum of elements of x , where the weighting is given by h time reversed and shifted by n .
- Herein, the asterisk symbol (i.e., “*”) will always be used to denote convolution, not multiplication.
- As we shall see, convolution is used extensively in the theory of (DT) systems.
- In particular, convolution has a special significance in the context of (DT) LTI systems.

- To compute the convolution

$$x * h(n) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x(k)h(n-k),$$

we proceed as follows:

- Plot $x(k)$ and $h(n-k)$ as a function of k
- 1 • Initially, consider an arbitrarily large negative value for n . This will result in
 - $h(n-k)$ being shifted very far to the left on the time axis. Write the mathematical expression for $x * h(n)$.
- 2
- 3 • Increase n gradually until the expression for $x * h(n)$ changes form.
- 4 Record the interval over which the expression for $x * h(n)$ was valid.
- 5 • Repeat steps 3 and 4 until n is an arbitrarily large positive value. This corresponds to $h(n-k)$ being shifted very far to the right on the time axis.
- 6 • The results for the various intervals can be combined in order to obtain an expression for $x * h(n)$ for all n .

- The convolution operation is *commutative*. That is, for any two sequences x and h ,

$$x * h = h * x.$$

- The convolution operation is *associative*. That is, for any sequences x , h_1 , and h_2 ,

$$(x * h_1) * h_2 = x * (h_1 * h_2).$$

- The convolution operation is *distributive* with respect to addition. That is, for any sequences x , h_1 , and h_2 ,

$$x * (h_1 + h_2) = x * h_1 + x * h_2.$$

- For any sequence x ,

$$x(n) = \left(\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x(k)\delta(n-k) \right) = x * \delta(n).$$

- Thus, any sequence x can be written in terms of an expression involving δ .
- Moreover, δ is the *convolutional identity*. That is, for any sequence x

$$x * \delta = x.$$

- The convolution of two periodic sequences is usually not well defined. This
- motivates an alternative notion of convolution for periodic sequences known as circular convolution.
- The **circular convolution** (also known as the DT periodic convolution) of the T -periodic sequences x and h , denoted $x \circledast h$, is defined as

$$x \circledast h(n) = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} x(k) h(n-k) = \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} x(k) h(\text{mod}(n-k, N))$$

where $\text{mod}(a, b)$ is the remainder after division when a is divided by b .

- The circular convolution and (linear) convolution of the N -periodic sequences x and h are related as follows:

$$x \circledast h(n) = x_0 * h(n) \quad \text{where} \quad x(n) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} x_0(n - kN)$$

i.e., $x_0(n)$ equals $x(n)$ over a single period of x and is zero elsewhere.

Section 8.2

Convolution and LTI Systems

- The response h of a system H to the input δ is called the **impulse response** of the system (i.e., $h = H\{\delta\}$)
- For any LTI system with input x , output y , and impulse response h , the following relationship holds:

$$y = x * h.$$

- In other words, a LTI system simply *computes a convolution*.
- Furthermore, a LTI system is *completely characterized* by its impulse response.
- That is, if the impulse response of a LTI system is known, we can determine the response of the system to any input.

- The response s of a system H to the input u is called the **step response** of the system (i.e., $s = H\{u\}$)
- The impulse response h and step response s of a system are related as

$$h(n) = s(n) - s(n-1)$$

- Therefore, the impulse response of a system can be determined from its step response by (first-order) differencing.

- Often, it is convenient to represent a (DT) LTI system in block diagram form.
- Since such systems are completely characterized by their impulse response, we often label a system with its impulse response.
- That is, we represent a system with input x , output y , and impulse response h , as shown below.

